

**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, D.C. 20515**

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**MEMBERS RELEASE NEW REPORT DETAILING THE LOSS OF UNEMPLOYMENT  
BENEFITS IN THE LOS ANGELES-LONG BEACH AREA**

WASHINGTON, DC — An estimated 83,000 unemployed Los Angeles-Long Beach area workers will lose their unemployment benefits in the first six months of 2004 if the Republican majority in Congress continues to block an extension, according to a new report released today.

The report estimates that 46,700 workers in the Los Angeles-Long Beach area lost their unemployment benefits during the first three months of 2004. Approximately 83,000 area workers are expected to lose their benefits in the first six months of the year. Because unemployment benefits are paid to workers who are in immediate need, they are spent rapidly and provide a significant economic stimulus for the community. The report estimates that an extension of unemployment benefits to workers in the Los Angeles-Long Beach area would result in a stimulus to the local economy of up to \$472 million during the first six months of 2004.

The report, based on the most recent government data, was prepared by the Democratic staff of the House Government Reform Committee at the request of 13 Los Angeles-Long Beach Area lawmakers: Reps. Henry A. Waxman, Brad Sherman, Howard L. Berman, Adam B. Schiff, Xavier Becerra, Hilda L. Solis, Diane E. Watson, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Maxine Waters, Jane Harman, Juanita Millender-McDonald, Grace F. Napolitano, and Linda T. Sánchez.

During periods of high unemployment, the federal government has historically extended unemployment benefits beyond the maximum of 26 weeks offered by most states. In December 2003, Congress failed to renew the temporary federal extension of unemployment benefits and jobless workers began to lose their benefits.

The full report can be found online at [www.house.gov/reform/min](http://www.house.gov/reform/min).